RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: (*a*) Smallpox prevailed in an epidemic form in certain urban and rural areas in the State towards the close of the second quarter and during the third quarter of this year. At present there are only a few stray cases.

(*b*) In urban areas the most affected Municipal towns were Nagercoil, Colachel, Trivandrum, Quilon, Shencottah and Alleppey. In the rural areas the most affected taluks were Kalkulam, Vilavancode, Neyyattinkara, Nedumangad, Chirayinkil and Quilon. The number of attacks and deaths from smallpox in the State during the quarter ending 31-1-45 were 400 and 143 respectively, the percentage of fatalities being 35·7.

(*c*) The Municipal Chairmen were advised to conduct vaccination campaigns in their respective municipal areas. The Sanitary Circle Officers carried on, on an intense scale, vaccination campaigns in their respective taluks. The places affected were attended to first and the surrounding places next. Thus the epidemic was brought under control towards the end of the third quarter.

(*d*) The Chairmen of the Municipalities of Quilon and Shencottah where the diseases prevailed in an acute form were advised to appoint additional staff and finish the vaccination campaigns at the earliest possible date.

Report about milk distribution in Parur taluk.

376. ❋ **MR. E. K. MADHAVAN** (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received any report of decomposition of milk from any of the distributing agencies of Parur taluk; and

(*b*) if so, the quantity thus reported to be spoiled?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 15 cases, each containing 48 tins.

MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: Sir, it is reported as answer to this question that 15 cases, each containing 48 tins, is the quantity reported to be spoiled. May I know from the honourable Member whether it was returned to the office of the Director of Public Health or not?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: The tins were condemned because the quality of the milk was found to be not up to the mark. The tins were returned.

Relief works in the Neyyattinkara taluk.

377. ❋**MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state what all relief works have been carried out during the year in connection with malaria in Neyyattinkara taluk and what is the present condition of malaria in that taluk?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 45,000 to carry out certain irrigation works in Neyyattinkara and Nedumangad taluks with a view to render relief to the poor people in the areas stricken with malaria. Ten tanks have been taken up for improvement in Kunnathukal, Perumkadavila and Ottasekharamangalam pakuthies in Neyyattinkara and the work is in good progress.

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Seven milk canteen centres have been opened in the malarial pakuthies of the taluk.

As regards the present situation of malaria, it has to be stated that in the controlled areas, the fever incidence has come down and conditions are normal. In the other areas also where emergency measures such as house-to-house distribution of Quinine were adopted the situation has improved.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the milk canteens are only a temporary measure or a permanent one?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Now it is intended as a war-time expedient.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: How long is it likely to be continued?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: It is proposed to continue them till the end of 1945.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: What is the arrangement under which the milk is supplied?

RAJYASEVANIRATHA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Government have purchased large quantities of milk; the Red Cross Society has also supplied some quantity. We pool these together.

PRESIDENT: During the war, having heard of what has taken place in Bengal, the American Government from their Society of friends, the Quakers in America, have consigned very large quantities of milk to the Government of India. That Government have very generously sent a large quantity to us. In addition to that, the Americans also supply directly through their agencies which have been established. Thus, we get the milk through two sources the American Red Cross and the American Society of Friends. All these supplies are for the duration of the war. The question of what is to be done as regards the supply of milk after the war is one which has come in for very serious consideration. It will involve veterinary re-organisation.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: While at this question, may I ask whether the Director of Public Health will inform the House what the condition of the Kunnathukal pakuthy in Neyyattinkara taluk is?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: It has been very serious. But now, it has considerably abated.

MR. M. K. NILAKANTAN (*Mavelikara cum Kunnathur*): ആഹാര ദൌർലഭ്യം മലമ്പനി പകരുന്നതിനു ഒരു കാരണമാണെന്നു പൊതുവ്യം വന്നിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Scarcity of food will be partly responsible for the infection also, because one looses the resisting power.

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MR. M. K. NILAKANTAN: അങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ സൌജന്യമായിട്ട് ആഹാരം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും എന്തെങ്കിലും വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: We have induced certain social organisations to come up for this voluntary work.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know how he is going to face the problem of underfeeding? You say it is largely due to underfeeding; what steps are Government going to take to solve the problem?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Sir, in certain taluks the Tahsildars are distributing paddy, sugar etc., at a cheap rate.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know the quantity that is distributed in Ranni.

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: The revenue authorities are better able to say that.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Sir, is it a question of under-feeding or mal-nutrition?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: The under-feeding leads to mal-nutrition.

Birth and death statistics in certain taluks.

378. * MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the following details for the taluks of Karunagapalli, Karthikapalli, Ambalapuzha, Shertallai, Vaikom and Parur and the towns of Alleppey, Vaikom and Parur for the year 1119:

(*a*) the ratio of deaths per 1000 population by (i) cholera (ii) small-pox, (iii) dysentery and diarrhoea and (iv) fevers;

(*b*) the total number of deaths in 1119;

(*c*) the rate of birth per mille of population and the rate of death per mille of population; and

(*d*) the rate of birth and rate of death per mille of population of the whole State in 1119?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: (*a*) to (*d*) A * statement containing the information is laid on the table.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: What are those diseases—are they nutrition diseases—dysentery, diarrhoea and fevers?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: I beg his pardon the question is not very clear to me.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: From the statement given in answer to question 378, may I know whether dysentery, diarrhoea and fevers are nutrition diseases?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: They are water borne diseases. (Laughter.)

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: I mean, are they produced by mal-nutrition?

* *Vide* Appendix IV, page 912.

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